## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

January 23, 1997 LB 118

getting.... I don't know what the breakdown is, but that's what they feel that they, you know, they don't have the expertise of writing the grants. If you have a grant writer, you know, you get the grant. In fact some universities and so forth, where I used to work, they had grant writers and they could get grants. I think that's.... So I don't know how it tips. But I think what Senator Janssen is trying to do is to kind of help the little boy on the street. Even though I don't represent a small district, but I think it maybe has some advantage. don't know how the money is funded. But that's what I hear on the street, is that it helps the biggies, not the small ones. And you know high technology, and if you can come up with a very glamorous, kind of a good program that sounds good, you know, maybe it doesn't do much, but you get the money. So I guess I rise to support Janssen because it kind of helps the little one. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Mr. Clerk, an amendment. Okay. Senator Kiel.

SENATOR KIEL: Madam President, I would respectfully disagree with my fellow senator, Senator Hartnett. We have had, and I say we, I'm no longer on the council but I will relay my experiences. We have had as many small school districts apply successfully as we have had large school districts. Wickersham's district, Hemingford, has been very successful in applying for grants. I mispoke a minute ago. The smallest one that I can recollect is Cherry County's successful grant application for \$18,000. The one thing I want to keep emphasizing is I know that there's an attitude that somehow the big school districts have a better opportunity, a better chance of applying for successfully the major grant. I would say that that has simply not been true in the history so far of the grant application process. And I would also tell you that we were interested in...the council was interested in creating another minigrant category last year, and got an AG opinion that said we could not do that, but that we could do that under a major grant application process. The council is in the process, right now, of developing a major grant subcategory that would provide for streamlined procedures and would be for up to about \$10,000. So I think that's already in the pipeline. But I would say again that smaller school districts have been just as successful